the requirement and supply of trained manpower in the hospitality sector is being further aggravated by an estimated 35% of the graduates of Institutes of Hotel Management joining other emerging sectors offering better remuneration and career options. To redress this situation, the Ministry of Tourism is setting up more Institutes of Hotel Management and Food Craft Institutes to provide requisite trained manpower to the hospitality sector.

Development of tourist sites

3083. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to make an action plan for infrastructure development at tourist sites of religious and mythological importance, which attract a large number of Indian and foreign tourists every year;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the time-frame in which it will be implemented; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) to (c) Development of tourism infrastructure at tourist sites, including the infrastructure at the sites of religious and mythological importance, is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/ UT Administrations. However, the Ministry of Tourism extends financial assistance to them for tourism infrastructure projects which are identified in consultation and interaction with them. To facilitate development to tourism in a systematic and wholistic manner, the Ministry of Tourism had commissioned 20-Year Perspective Plans for States/Union Territories at the beginning of the 10th Five Year Plan. These perspective plans, which give action plans for tourism development in the short term and long term, were sent to the State/UT Governments to gudie them in initiating action for development and promotion of tourism.

New Hotel Policy

3084. MS. MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to frame out a New Hotel Policy with accent on creating more rooms in order to attract more and more tourists;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government proposes to provide some kind of incentives to attract sector to give a boost to this project; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (d) Ministry of Tourism had announced a scheme to provide incentive to hotels of 1 to 3 star and Heritage Basic categories in all over the country where the hotels projects has been commissioned and classified *w.e.f.* 01.04.2007 to 31.03.2008. The incentive were in the form of capital subsidy of Rs. 2.00 lakh per room subject to a maximum of Rs. 30.00 lakh to one star hotel, Rs. 3.00 lakh per room subject to a maximum of Rs. 75.00 lakh to two star hotel, Rs. 3.00 lakh per room subject to a maximum of Rs. 100.00 lakh to there star and Heritage Basic category hotels.